



# The Connector

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## Inside The Connector:

Engagement in South Africa	2
Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation	2
S/SRGIA Hosts the NCBM	2
Quality Management Principles in Chile	3
Pacific Islands Forum	4
In the Next Issue of The Connector	4

## Did you Know?

- The world's busiest passenger airport is the State of Georgia's Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.
- The State of Illinois ranks #1 in the Midwest as a destination for foreign investment and has attracted 1,596 foreign firms with 5,744 locations throughout the state.

## Milestones in U.S. - India State-to-State Engagement

Since President Obama's visit to India in 2010, U.S.-India relations have flourished at the state level. At the second round of the U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue, Secretary Clinton and India's Minister for External Affairs Shri S.M. Krishna both acknowledged the expansion of people-to-people ties. Secretary Clinton also used the dialogue as an opportunity to highlight the importance of working at the state level by traveling beyond the capital to Chennai to meet with Chief Minister Jayalalithaa of Tamil Nadu. State-to-state engagement is now even a part of the economic strategy for India.

As a follow-up to the momentum built by President Obama and Secretary Clinton, Special Representative Lewis embarked on a trip throughout India to begin implementing a U.S.-India

state-to-state engagement initiative designed to engage Indian state and local leaders as another key step in broadening and deepening the U.S.-India strategic partnership. Special Rep. Lewis traveled to several cities and states within India including New Delhi and the states of Assam, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Maharashtra to meet with chief ministers, mayors, and panchayat leaders, as well as with leaders in business and academia.

During this engagement, Special Rep. Lewis met with four chief ministers, four government ministries, numerous local officials, and leaders in the academic community, as well as several NGOs and business organizations including the U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC), the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Confed-



Secretary Clinton pictured with Chief Minister Jayalalithaa.  
DoS Photo

eration of Indian Industry (CII), Indo-American Chamber of commerce (IACC), and the American Chamber of Commerce in India (AmCham-India). Through these meetings, Special Rep. Lewis furthered this initiative and established interests in states and cities in expanding state-to-state and city-to-city ties; trade and investment; clean energy cooperation; university tie-ups; and connections among entrepreneurs.

In November, Special (*cont. 3*)

## Celebrating a Year of Successes: U.S. - China Governors Forum

U.S. - China subnational engagement has been very successful over the past year. Since Secretary Clinton and Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi signed a MOU supporting U.S. - China subnational cooperation in January 2011, two U.S. - China Governors Forums (the "Forum") have been co-convened by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC).

The NGA and CPAFFC held



U.S. governors and Chinese provincial leaders at the Beijing Forum.  
DoS Photo

the inaugural Forum in July 2011 in Salt Lake City. A reciprocal meeting took place in Beijing in October 2011. This type of engagement serves as a new mechanism to broaden and

deepen our bilateral ties with China. Special Rep. Lewis led the effort and the U.S. Government delegations to both Forums. The Utah Forum generated a historic amount of cooperation among state, federal, business, and academic communities. U.S. governors from 24 states participated. The U.S. Delegation included representatives of the State Department's Bureaus of East Asian and Pacific Affairs (EAP) and Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs (EEB); the U.S. (*cont. 3*)



## Laying the Groundwork for Subnational Engagement in South Africa

“Seeing the close cooperation between Americans and South Africans was very encouraging to the Department. This subnational collaboration is an important part of meeting our foreign policy objectives.”

— **Special Rep. Lewis, Sept. 14, 2011**

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) celebrated 10 years of local government in 2011. SALGA is an organization mandated by the South African Constitution to assist in the transformation of local government after the country’s democratic transition in the post-apartheid era. Capacity building for local officials is a top priority for SALGA. This commitment to local government excellence created a natural connection between the National League of Cities (NLC), the oldest and largest national organization representing U.S. municipal governments, and SALGA.



Special Rep. Lewis with Councilman Hunt and SALGA CEO George.  
*DoS photo*

Since its inception, S/SRGIA has worked closely with the NLC’s International Committee. Recognizing the impact of their collaboration on strengthening our countries’ bilateral relationship and the opportunity to share

best practices, the NLC and SALGA reached out to the Department. The Department has supported this cooperation within the larger framework of the U.S.-South Africa Strategic Dialogue, which was signed in April 2010 to provide a comprehensive framework for partnership.

Special Rep. Lewis traveled to South Africa in September 2011 to support subnational cooperation as a deliverable of the Strategic Dialogue. While in South Africa, Special Rep. Lewis met with premiers, mayors, and government ministries to promote subnational cooperation with U.S. states. She also participa- *(cont. 4)*

## Asia - Pacific Economic Cooperation



Secretary Clinton pictured with Nina Easton of Fortune Magazine at the CEO Summit on Women and the Economy.  
*DoS photo*

For the first time since 1993, the U.S. hosted the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the premier forum for strengthening regional economic integration. In November, the leaders from 21 member economies gathered for a meeting hosted by President Barack Obama in Honolulu. Special Rep. Lewis participated in this meeting, as well as many other APEC events, including the third APEC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM 3) and the first-

ever Women and the Economy Summit (WES), which were held in September in San Francisco. WES was designed to foster women’s economic empowerment and featured a keynote address by Secretary Clinton as well as many other high-profile speakers.

S/SRGIA worked closely with subnational officials in the lead up to the APEC Leaders’ Week meeting to ensure their participation and further the Department’s efforts to promote state and local

leaders as extraordinary sources of innovation, talent, resources, and knowledge. This included outreach to San Francisco Mayor Edwin Lee and Oakland Mayor Jean Quan, who serves as chair for the U.S. Conference of Mayor’s International Affairs Committee. Both of these mayors have significant interaction with their foreign counterparts on a wide range of issues including trade, education, and cultural exchanges. *(cont. 4)*

## S/SRGIA Hosts the National Conference of Black Mayors (NCBM)



Special Rep. Lewis pictured with NCBM Executive Director Vanessa Williams (2nd from left) and NCBM President Mayor Robert Bowser (far right).  
*DoS photo*

The NCBM has worked with S/SRGIA on many subnational initiatives globally, particularly in the Caribbean and Africa. To further this collaboration and inform future partnerships, a NCBM delegation was hosted at the Department by S/SRGIA in June for a “Smart Partnership Dialogue Policy Conference.” Mayors were briefed on a number of policy topics relevant to their cities’

global relationships and exchanges. The event included presentations on trade, Africa, sister cities, Colombia, CARICOM, Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, and Senegal by their respective Department bureaus. The session concluded with remarks from Under Secretary for Economic, Energy, and Agricultural Affairs Robert Hormats and Assistant Secretary for International Narcot-

ics and Law Enforcement Affairs William Brownfield.

Subnational leaders around the world share many of the same challenges as they face tight budgets, high unemployment, and infrastructure challenges. Creating partnerships between black mayors across nations offers a chance to promote knowledge sharing that benefits our bilateral relationships.



## Milestones in U.S. - India State-to-State Engagement Continued



Special Rep. Lewis pictured with Gov. Martin O'Malley during the Partnering Maryland event December 2, 2012 in New Delhi.  
DoS Photo

(from 1) Rep. Lewis traveled to India to support Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley's historic trade mission as an important step in deepening U.S.-India state-to-state engagement. Governor O'Malley's trade delegation of over 100 representatives of Maryland's business and academic communities to Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and New Delhi represented the largest state trade mission to India. Maryland's First Lady Judge Catherine O'Malley led a parallel delega-

tion and met with individuals within the Indian judicial system to discuss development of sustainable rule of law partnerships. Also in support of the Department's state-to-state engagement, Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell led an equally historic trade delegation to India in November and established a new marketing representative for Virginia in Mumbai. S/SRGIA is working with the Indian business community to continue this engagement in 2012.

"Much of the history of the 21st century will be written in Asia, and ... much of the future of Asia will be shaped by decisions not only of the Indian Government...but of governments across India, and perhaps, most importantly, by [India's] 1.3 billion people."

— **Secretary Hillary Clinton, July 20, 2011**

## Celebrating a Year of Successes: U.S. - China Governors Forum Continued



Special Rep. Lewis pictured with Gov. Christine Gregoire (far left), CPAFFC Chairwoman Madame Li Xiaolin (far right), and Chinese Ambassador to the U.S. Zhang Yesui at the Utah Forum in July 2011.  
DoS Photo

(from 1) Embassy Beijing; the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the White House. The Forum was chaired by Governor Christine Gregoire (Washington), then NGA Chair. The Chinese delegation was led by Zhejiang Party Secretary Zhao Hongzhu. CPAFFC Chairwoman Madame Li Xiaolin, and the Chinese Ambassador to the U.S. Zhang Yesui. The Forum resulted in the signing of over 20 MOUs related to business, education, and the environment. U.S. governors also held one-on-one meetings with provincial leaders to discuss cooperation on trade and investment, energy, and agriculture.

During the Beijing Forum, U.S.

governors met with Chinese provincial leaders, the first gathering of this kind in China. U.S. governors discussed issues such as job creation and competitiveness, and explored new investment opportunities with key Chinese decision-makers. The Chinese delegation consisted of Beijing Mayor Jinlong and five provincial leaders representing the provinces of Zhejiang, Hunan, Liaoning, Shandong, Yunnan, Jiangxi, and Anhui. Vice Premier Wang Qishan and Vice Ministers of Foreign Affairs Cui Tianki and Commerce Wang Chao also participated. Governor Gregoire led the NGA Delegation, which included five governors representing Georgia,

North Carolina, Hawaii, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The U. S. government delegation was co-led by Under Secretary Robert Hormats and included participation from senior officials from Embassy Beijing and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce Craig Allen.

During the Beijing visit, The American Chamber of Commerce in China hosted an "Invest USA Forum" for the governors and Chinese officials. At the conclusion of both Forums, U.S. and Chinese delegations traveled to their sister states and cities to boost two-way trade and investment and to promote their individual states and provinces.

## City Officials Speak on Quality Management Principles in Providencia, Chile



Mayor Gold (right) with Providencia Mayor Cristián Labbe and Controller Ramiro Mendoza Zúñiga, and Global Benchmarking Network Chair Dr. Robin Mann.  
Coral Springs City Photo

Elected officials from Providencia, Chile hosted Coral Springs City, Florida officials at the 6th Annual Quest for Excellence in Local Government Conference August 28 - 30, 2011. Chilean mayors and elected officials from throughout South and Central America were in attendance.

The forum demonstrated the application of Business Excellence Frameworks and the use of

quality tools to fuel the modernization of the municipal sector.

The City of Coral Springs was originally visited by Providencia City officials in May 2010 when the two cities agreed to enter into a relationship to improve the delivery of municipal services to their respective communities.

Secretary Clinton has made it a priority to engage our subnational leaders because states and cities

are the engines of growth at the ground level where the transition from policy to practice is most visible.

Special Rep. Lewis applauds this exchange as a model for subnational engagement and promotes exactly this type of peer-to-peer interaction as she carries out the Secretary's vision of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Statecraft.





## Engagement in South Africa Continued

“The partnership between the United States and South Africa is grounded in mutual respect and mutual interest. We have a lot to learn from each other and we have so much we can accomplish together. South Africa’s leadership is critical to the prosperity and security of the South African people and to Africa and the world.”  
— **Secretary Hillary Clinton, April 14, 2010**

(from 2) ted in the SALGA National Conference, which was attended by over 2,000 provincial officials and served as a venue for the signing of a MOU between the NLC and SALGA. The historic MOU promotes NLC - SALGA collaboration on capacity building in governance, sustainability, and economic development. NLC International Chair Alderman Joe Davis of Milwaukee, WI and former NLC President Councilmember James Hunt of Clarksburg, WV represented the NLC at the conference and MOU signing.

S/SRGIA plans to host a delegation of South African leaders with the NLC at its March 2012 conference in order to promote best practice sharing and discuss policy topics of mutual concern.

## APEC Cooperation Continued

(from 2) In addition, Special Rep. Lewis delivered the keynote speech at the Sister-Cities Summit in Honolulu, Hawaii, where 17 delegations from around the APEC region participated. During the Summit, four new Sister-City relationships were signed between Honolulu and the counties of Hawaii and Dongzhou, China; Goyang, Republic of Korea; Iwaki, Japan; and Ormoc, Philippines. While in Honolulu, Special Rep. Lewis also met with Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie and all four

mayors of Hawaii to discuss subnational engagement among the APEC economies.



Special Rep. Lewis pictured with Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie at the APEC Senior Officials Dinner.  
*Dos Photo*

“...to achieve the economic expansion we all seek, we need to unlock a vital source of growth that can power our economies in the decades to come. And that vital source of growth is women.”

— **Secretary Hillary Clinton, Sept. 16, 2011**

## U.S. Territory Governors Receive Observer Status at the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)



Special Rep. Lewis pictured with Mayor Brown, Consul General Randy Berry, and Ambassador Mike Moore.  
*DoS Photo*

In September, Special Rep. Lewis participated as a member of the largest ever U.S. delegation to the PIF—an intergovernmental organization that enhances cooperation between and represents the interests of the countries of the Pacific Ocean.

While in Auckland for the Forum, Special Rep. Lewis met with subnational officials representing the 16 Pacific Ocean nations in order to promote sub-

national engagement. She met with Auckland Mayor Len Brown and his sustainability, ethnic inclusion, and economic development representatives about furthering existing sister city relationships and developing new strategic relationships with their U.S. counterparts. In addition, Special Rep. Lewis and Deputy Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Frankie Reed were invited by the

Government of New Zealand to a special September 11th (9/11) Memorial Ceremony during the U.S.-Ireland World Rugby Match to commemorate the deaths of rugby players on 9/11.

The PIF was a tremendous success for U.S. territory governors, represented by American Samoa Governor Tulafono, who Special Rep. Lewis supported in their observer status at the Forum for the first time.

## In the Next Issue of The Connector

- Implementation of the SALGA/NLC MOU will continue at the NLC’s Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. in March 2012.
- With the upcoming 2014 World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics in Brazil, Special Rep. Lewis travels to Brazil to further U.S. - Brazil subnational engagement.

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